

ILLINOIS FARM REPORT



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE**

Illinois Field Office
P.O. Box 19283, Springfield, IL 62794-9283
Phone: (217)492-4295
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
<http://www.nass.usda.gov>

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The staff of the Illinois Field Office wishes to thank the farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses that responded to the September Yield Survey, the August Milk Production Survey, the August Prices Received Survey and the July Labor Survey. Your responses to these surveys are important to the agricultural community.

HIGHLIGHTS
SEPTEMBER CROP REPORT
MILK PRODUCTION
AGRICULTURAL PRICES
FARM LABOR

SEPTEMBER CROP REPORT

The 2006 Illinois corn crop is expected to yield 174 bushels per acre, up two bushels from the August forecast and up 31 bushels from last year's yield. If realized, total corn production would be 1.99 billion bushels, 17 percent more than produced in 2005. If realized, this would be the second highest yield and production on record behind 2004. The weather has moderated since late July allowing the corn crop to progress with little stress. Temperatures were near normal throughout August with above normal precipitation being received across the state. All districts averaged from 3.5 to 5.0 inches of rain during the month, however, areas in the West and West Southwest Districts remained on the dry side.

The forecast yield for soybeans is 48 bushels per acre, up three bushels from the August 1 forecast and up one bushel from last year. Production is expected to total 482.4 million bushels, nine percent above last year. If realized, this would be the second highest yield and production on record behind 2004. Rains received across the state during the month of August helped the majority of the soybean crop reach its potential. Temperatures were near normal during much of the month with soil moisture supplies improving after rains were received during the last three weeks of the month. As of September 3, 17 percent of the soybeans were turning yellow, compared to 46 percent last year and the five-year average of 32 percent. The soybean condition rating increased slightly during the month of August from 68 percent rated good or excellent on August 6 to 74 percent on September 3.

CROP ACREAGE & PRODUCTION, 2005-2006

Crop (Acres for harvest)	Illinois		United States	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
Acreage and production in thousands				
<u>Corn, Grain</u>				
Acres	11,950	11,450	75,107	71,841
Yield, bu.	143.0	174.0	147.9	154.7
Production	1,708,850	1,992,300	11,112,072	11,113,766
<u>Soybeans</u>				
Acres	9,450	10,050	71,361	73,935
Yield, bu.	47.0	48.0	43.3	41.8
Production	444,150	482,400	3,086,432	3,092,970
<u>Winter Wheat, Grain</u>				
Acres	600	870	33,794	31,108
Yield, bu.	61.0	67.0	44.4	41.2
Production	36,600	58,290	1,499,129	1,283,134
<u>Oats, Grain</u>				
Acres	40	40	1,823	1,907
Yield, bu.	79.0	70.0	63.0	56.3
Production	3,160	2,800	114,878	107,423
<u>Sorghum, Grain</u>				
Acres	83	87	5,736	5,317
Yield, cwt.	92.0	107.0	68.7	57.3
Production	7,636	9,309	393,893	304,635
<u>Alfalfa Hay</u>				
Acres	400	420	22,389	22,407
Yield, tons	3.50	4.40	3.38	3.18
Production	1,400	1,848	75,771	71,205
<u>All Other Hay</u>				
Acres	330	350	39,260	40,290
Yield, tons	2.30	2.30	1.91	1.77
Production	759	805	74,819	71,121
<u>Potatoes, Summer</u>				
Acres	5.5	6.3	51.4	54.8
Yield, cwt.	380	410	342	342
Production	2,090	2,583	17,567	18,731
<u>Apples</u>				
Mil. lbs.	49.0	53.0	9,864.9	9,619.7
<u>Peaches</u>				
Mil. lbs.	11,200	11,500	1,184,550	1,053,800
<u>Snap Beans 1/</u>				
Acres	15,100	14,800	207,020	188,040
Yield, tons	4.08	3.90	3.90	4.08
Production	61,300	57,720	810,495	768,070
<u>Sweet Corn 1/</u>				
Acres	2/	2/	403,310	391,600
Yield, tons	2/	2/	7.86	7.73
Production	2/	2/	3,169,510	3,027,960

1/ Contract for processing only. 2/ Not published.

U.S. CROP REPORT

Corn production is forecast at 11.1 billion bushels, up one percent from last month and fractionally above 2005. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 154.7 bushels per acre, up 2.5 bushels from August and 6.8 bushels from last year. If realized, yield and production would be the second largest on record, behind 2004. Forecast yields are higher than August across the northern Great Plains and western Corn Belt as moderate to heavy precipitation during the month improved soil moisture levels and crop conditions. Expected yields across the eastern Corn Belt are unchanged from last month. Farmers expect to harvest 71.8 million acres of corn for grain, down 250,000 acres from August and down four percent from 2005. The September 1 corn objective yield data indicates the highest stalk count and the second highest ear count on record, behind 2004, for the combined ten objective yield states (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin).

Soybean production is forecast at 3.09 billion bushels, up six percent from the August forecast and up slightly from the 2005 crop. If realized, this would be the second highest production on record. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 41.8 bushels per acre, up 2.2 bushels from August but down 1.5 bushels from last year's record high yield. Compared with last month, yields are forecast higher across the Corn Belt and most of the northern and central Great Plains. Near or above normal moisture in those areas during August improved crop conditions. In contrast, yields are down or unchanged from the August 1 forecast across the Gulf Coast States and Atlantic Coast States, with the exception of South Carolina. The September 1 objective yield data for the combined seven major soybean producing states (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, and Ohio) indicate only slightly lower pod counts from last year's record high pod counts

ILLINOIS DISTRICT ESTIMATES

CORN, 2005-2006

District	Acres planted		Acres for grain		Yield		Production	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 acres		1,000 acres		Bushels		1,000 bushels	
Northwest	1,963	1,953	1,925	1,921	140	189	269,532.5	363,069
Northeast	1,127	1,087	1,112	1,073	129	183	143,564.5	196,359
West	1,155	1,105	1,137	1,092	141	159	160,204.9	173,628
Central	1,692	1,579	1,678	1,564	146	185	245,204.2	289,340
East	1,667	1,589	1,657	1,574	158	185	261,925.5	291,190
West Southwest	1,697	1,596	1,681	1,581	151	169	253,740.9	267,189
East Southeast	1,612	1,556	1,595	1,532	139	166	221,589.7	254,312
Southwest	563	536	545	521	133	130	72,485.2	67,821
Southeast	624	599	620	592	130	151	80,602.6	89,392
ILLINOIS	12,100	11,600	11,950	11,450	143	174	1,708,850.0	1,992,300

SOYBEANS, 2005-2006

District	Acres planted		Acres for harvest		Yield		Production	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 acres		1,000 acres		Bushels		1,000 bushels	
Northwest	991	992	986	987	48	54	47,330.5	53,298
Northeast	762	812	758	807	44	47	33,364.7	37,929
West	885	929	881	925	47	45	41,450.2	41,625
Central	1,201	1,281	1,193	1,276	51	53	60,888.1	67,628
East	1,334	1,396	1,328	1,391	51	51	67,761.5	70,941
West Southwest	1,225	1,366	1,218	1,361	46	47	56,051.2	63,967
East Southeast	1,557	1,669	1,550	1,661	46	49	71,311.4	81,389
Southwest	820	858	816	853	42	38	34,304.8	32,414
Southeast	725	797	720	789	44	42	31,687.6	33,209
ILLINOIS	9,500	10,100	9,450	10,050	47	48	444,150.0	482,400

MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in Illinois during July 2006 totaled 165 million pounds, up one percent from last July 2005. The number of milk cows on farms averaged 103,000 head, down one percent from July of last year. Milk per cow was up one percent from last year at 1,600 pounds.

Estimated milk production in the U.S. during July 2006 totaled 15.2 billion pounds, up one percent from July 2005. Production per cow averaged 1,664 pounds, up eight pounds from last year. The number of milk cows was 9.13 million head in July, up one percent from a year ago.

MILK PRODUCTION: ILLINOIS & UNITED STATES, JULY 2005-2006

		July					
		Illinois			United States		
		2005	2006	2006 as % of 2005	2005	2006	2006 as % of 2005
Milk Production:							
Number of milk cows	Head (000)	104	103	99	9,053	9,134	101
Milk production per cow	Lbs.	1,580	1,600	101	1,656	1,664	100
Total milk production	Mil. lbs.	164	165	101	14,978	15,200	101

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

The August index of prices received by Illinois farmers for all commodities was 102 percent of the base, down three points from the revised July figure and 12 points below August 2005. The current year's base was computed by multiplying the average production for the five-year period by the average price for each year. These five years were summed and then divided by five to arrive at an average (base) for the period. The current five-year average production was then multiplied by the current price and divided by the average for the five years to arrive at the current index. The August All Crops index, at 100 percent of the base, was four points below the revised July number and 11 points below August 2005. The All Livestock index was at 111 percent of the base, up five points from the revised July number but 12 points below August 2005. All livestock prices increased from last month except for all milk which decreased and barrows and gilts which remained steady. The hog-corn ratio was at 24.0.

The U.S. preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in August, at 120 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased three points from July. The Crop Index was up three points and the Livestock Index increased five points. Producers received higher commodity prices for lettuce, broilers, tomatoes, and eggs. Lower prices were received for corn, soybeans, sorghum grain, and potatoes. The overall index was also affected by the seasonal change based on a three-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of cattle, grapes, calves, and sweet corn offset decreased marketings of wheat, hay, broilers, and canteloupe.

INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

Commodity	July 2005	Aug. 2005	July 2006	Aug. 15, 2006
ILLINOIS				
	1999-2003=100		2000-2004=100	
All Farm Products	122	114	105 *	102
All Crops	122	111	104 *	100
Food grains	132	121	124 *	114
Feed grains/hay	113	102	108 *	100
Soybeans	134	122	98 *	99
All Livestock	119	123	106 *	111
Meat animals	119	125	108 *	114
Dairy products	120	115	95 *	92
UNITED STATES				
	1990-92=100			
All Farm Products	116	116	117 *	120
All Crops	115	115	123 *	126
Food grains	107	108	130 *	129
Feed grains/hay	105	100	109 *	103
Oilseeds	119	109	100 *	94
All Livestock	117	117	110 *	115
Meat animals	115	116	117 *	119
Dairy products	113	113	90 *	91
Prices Paid	141	141	148 *	148
Parity Ratio 1/	82	82	79 *	81

1/ Prices received index divided by prices paid index.

* Revised.



PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

Commodity	Unit	Illinois				United States			
		July 2005	Aug. 2005	July 2006	Aug. 15, 2006	July 2005	Aug. 2005	July 2006	Aug. 15, 2006
		Dollars							
Corn	Bushels	2.23	2.03	2.28 *	2.10	2.11	1.95	2.14 *	2.03
Soybeans	Bushels	6.78	6.20	5.74 *	5.40	6.65	6.15	5.61 *	5.24
Sorghum	Cwt.	3/	4.05	4.58 *	4.00	3.94	3.69	4.62 *	4.11
Wheat, all	Bushels	3.22	3.16	3.35 *	3.20	3.20	3.24	3.89 *	3.88
Oats	Bushels	1.77	1.84	1.95 *	2.00	1.59	1.49	1.78 *	1.70
Hay, all baled	Tons	91.00	94.00	87.00	89.00	99.70	99.70	107.00 *	106.00
Alfalfa hay, bld	Tons	97.00	98.00	94.00	93.00	109.00	108.00	113.00 *	110.00
Other hay, bld	Tons	72.00	75.00	74.00	71.00	75.90	77.00	89.30 *	91.50
Hogs, all	Cwt.	50.70	51.60	50.30 *	50.40	49.80	51.00	50.20 *	51.60
Barrows, Gilts	Cwt.	52.00	53.00	52.00 *	52.00	50.40	51.60	51.10 *	52.50
Sows	Cwt.	36.80	37.00	30.40 *	31.60	37.60	38.60	32.00 *	33.60
Beef cattle	Cwt.	79.40	80.90	82.30	83.30	85.00	84.40	86.10 *	87.70
Cows	Cwt.	52.00	52.00	46.00	47.00	53.80	51.40	46.60 *	46.90
Steers, Heifers	Cwt.	80.00	81.50	83.00	84.00	88.20	87.70	90.40 *	91.80
Calves	Cwt.	118.00	116.00	122.00 *	123.00	133.00	133.00	136.00 *	134.00
Milk cows	Head	1,850.00	2/	1,710.00	2/	1,830.00	2/	1,680.00 *	2/
Milk, all	Cwt.	14.90	15.20	12.90 *	12.70	14.80	14.80	11.80 *	11.90
Milk, fluid	Cwt.	14.90	15.20	12.90	3/	14.80	14.80	11.80 *	11.90
Milk, mfg.	Cwt.	14.40	13.90	12.40	3/	14.10	13.80	10.80 *	11.00
Hog-corn ratio		22.7	25.4	22.1 *	24.0	23.6	26.2	23.5 *	25.4

1/ Prices received represents the average of all grades or classes at point of first sale and should not be confused with market quotations.

2/ Estimated in January, April, July and October.

3/ State prices not published.

* Revised.

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FARM LABOR

HIRED WORKERS: NUMBER & HOURS WORKED, BY REGION, JULY 9-15, 2006 1/

REGION 2/	Hired workers			
	Number of workers	Expected to be employed		Number of hours worked
		150 days or more	149 days or less	
	Thousands			
LAKE	68	44	24	38.4
CORNBELT I	55	33	22	34.7
CORNBELT II	23	20	3	41.8
U.S.	875	630	245	40.9

HIRED WORKERS: WAGE RATES FOR TYPE OF WORKER & ALL HIRED WORKERS, BY REGION, JULY 9-15, 2006 1/

REGION 2/	Type of worker			Wage rates for all hired workers
	Field	Livestock	Field & livestock combined	
	Dollars per hour			
LAKE	9.37	9.72	9.50	10.22
CORNBELT I	9.46	9.28	9.40	10.14
CORNBELT II	9.85	10.15	10.00	10.40
U.S.	8.95	9.56	9.10	9.74

1/ Excludes agricultural service workers.

2/ Regions consist of the following: LAKE: MI, MN, WI; CORNBELT I: IL, IN, OH; CORNBELT II: IA, MO; UNITED STATES: Excludes Alaska.

Brad Schwab, Mark Schleusener, Michael S. Clark, Agricultural Statisticians
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